

REMARKS

This amendment is submitted in response to the Office Action. The claims pending in this application are claims 1-8, with claims 9-11 being previously withdrawn. Claims 1 and 8 have been amended, and claims 2 and 7 have been canceled by this amendment. Thus, upon entry of this amendment, claims 1, 3-6 and 8 are pending in the present application. Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider the rejection to the claims based on the following remarks.

Turning now to the Office Action, the Examiner has rejected claims 1-6 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 4,299,862 of Schaefer, et al. In view of the amendments made to the claims and the remarks set forth below, applicant respectfully submits that the Examiner's rejection of claims 1-6 is obviated.

In the Office Action, the Examiner also indicated that claims would be allowable is rewritten in independent form to include the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claim 1 has been amended to incorporate the limitations of claims 2 and 7, and claim 8 has been rewritten in independent form to include the limitations from claim 1 (prior to the amendments made herein).

In view of the amendments made to claims 1 and 8, applicant respectfully submits that this application is now in condition for allowance.

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It is believed that no fees or charges are required at this time in connection with the present application. However, if any fees or charges are required at this time, they may be charged to our Patent and Trademark Office Deposit Account No. 02-1666.

Respectfully submitted,

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